GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2739
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2001
QUANTITY OF LEAD IN PETROL
PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the efforts to control the quantity of lead in petrol was multi-purpose;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the details of the ill effects caused by not controlling the lead in petrol;

(d) whether problems like excessive contents of Benzene have arisen even after use of unleaded petrol; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (c): The effort to control the quantity of lead in petrol involved dual purpose namely reducing the lead content in the vehicular emissions and preventing the poisoning of catalyst of catalytic converter fitted vehicles.

(d)&(e) Effective 1.4.2000, the petrol produced in India had maximum benzene content of 3% for metros and 5% for rest of country. Further, since 1.1.2001 & 1.3.2001, Mumbai & NCR are being supplied with 1%maximum benzene petrol respectively. Thus, benzene content in petrol has been substantially reduced even after introduction of unleaded petrol.